

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Inventor: Kurt H. Ruppman Sr.

Title: Method For Making An Improved Preform

Ser. No. 09/683,106 Atty. Docket No. P-A912 RECTIVED

INFORMATION DISCLOSURESTATEMENT

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant desires to bring to the attention of the Examiner known references believed to be material to the patentability of this application. This disclosure is made in accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and § 609 of the *Manual of Patent Examining Procedures*, within three months of the electronic filing of the above-identified application.

The patents and nonpatent references are listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A Copies of the cited references are enclosed. In keeping with the spirit of the Paperwork Reduction Act, Applicant has provided a legible copy of each reference as required by 35 CFR 1.98(a)(2) in the form of digital images encoded on two Compact Disc-Recordable (CD-R) discs. This form of "legible copy" is enumerated in 35 CFR 1.52(a)(1)(v) as one type of copy used by the Patent Office. The two CD-Rs are identical, and are labeled in accordance with 37 CFR 1.52.

The CD-ROM was created on an IBM-PC compatible computer using the Windows 98SE operating system, and contains the following files:

| File Name | File Size (bytes) | Date |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | | 04-04-01 10:39a |
| 4064112.tif | 712,632 | 04-04-01 10.39a |
| 4092458.tif | 468,168 | 04-04-01 10:44a |
| 4230819.tif | 119,620 | 09-06-01 3:52p |
| 4609721.tif | 1,260,420 | 04-12-01 2:23p |
| 4764323.tif | 326,136 | 06-06-01 10:21p |
| 5286187.tif | 1,302,348 | 04-12-01 1:59p |
| 5286435.tif | 597,408 | 03-13-01 10:52a |
| | | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

| File Name | File Size (bytes) | Date |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 5340884.tif | 1,306,968 | 07-18-01 11:31a |
| 5531060.tif | 447,112 | 09-06-01 11:00a |
| 5648032.tif | 719,592 | 06-06-01 10:33p |
| 5656719.tif | 620,876 | 06-07-01 2:15p |
| 5980797.tif | 650,856 | 07-18-01 11:35a |
| 6099778.tif | 677,388 | 06-07-01 1:54p |
| 6113997.tif | 469,888 | 06-07-01 3:16p |
| Kadykowski_Article.tif | 28,662,736 | 10-10-01 3:17p |

In the above-given list, a numerical file name reflects the issue number of the respective patent reference. The file named Kadykowski_Article.tif is a copy of the single nonpatent reference listed on attached form PTO/SB/08A. The file is saved as a 256 level black and white TIFF file without compression, because Applicant was uncertain which form of compression should be used for gray scale images. A paper copy of the nonpatent reference is included as a backup.

Applicant expressly reserves the right to question the relevancy and materiality of these references, in whole or in part, or in combination, subsequent to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey T. Hubbard

Reg. No. 38,923

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214/528-1881

Attorneys for Applicant

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail to: Commissioner of Patents,

Washington D.C. 20231 on February 13, 2002

Jeffrey T. Hubbard

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| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | First Named Inventor | Kurt H. Ruppman, Sr. |
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| (use as many sheets as necessary) | Examiner Name | |

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| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------|---|---|--|--|--|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Number | ocument Kind Code ² (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | |
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| Examiner Cite Initials No.1 | Cito | Foreign Patent Document | | | Name of Patentee or | Date of Publication of | Pages, Columns, Lines, | \Box |
| | | Office ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>) | Applicant of Cited Document | Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | Te |
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| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 | | Attorney Docket Number | P-A912 |

| | T | OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---|----|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | 12 |
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